

Application No. 10/042,373  
Reply to Office Action of 12/16/2003

Attorney Docket No. 10287.48  
Customer No. 27683

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the entire text of the abstract with the following paragraph:

--- Carriers hold remote-acting bodies which can be manipulated by a remote force, and also hold a micro-substance which is a target substance of an assay. The remote-acting bodies are manipulated in order to control the positions of the micro-substances, so as to execute assays for various target substances efficiently, at low cost, easily, and reliably. Various aspects of interest include the carriers which hold the micro-substances, a system suspending the carriers, an apparatus for manipulating the carriers, and a method of controlling the position of the carriers. ---